

THURSDAY, MARCH 31, 1898.

H. A. LONDON, Editor.

The long expected report of the naval court of inquiry has at last been published...

And on the other hand the Spanish court of inquiry has made an exactly opposite report, showing that the Maine was destroyed by an internal explosion...

Now, what next? Will there be war? No man can answer either of these important questions...

The danger of war does not arise now so much from the blowing up of the Maine, as from the avowed intention of our government to intervene...

The coming of the Spanish flotilla of torpedo boats is one of the most serious menaces of war. That flotilla is said to be on its voyage to Porto Rico...

Preparations for war are being pushed as rapidly as men and money can make them. Our seacoast is being made ready to resist any modern "Spanish Armada"...

According to the latest telegrams the President has made a peremptory demand on Spain to put an end immediately to hostilities in Cuba...

That was a pitiable and shameful confession made by the Populist railroad commissioner, Mr. L. C. Caldwell. His town paper, the Statesville Sentinel, states that he frankly admits that...

Gov Russell is said to have eased his spiteful warfare on the Southern Railway Company and its officers. His utterances and actions in all his course in this railroad matter have made him the laughing-stock of all unprejudiced persons...

The criminal proceedings against the railroad officials have been dismissed. Mr. W. L. Cobb, of Bertie county, accidentally shot and killed himself last Saturday.

Court of Inquiry's Report.

Washington, March 27.—The Associated Press presents herewith a complete abstract of the report of the court of inquiry...

First—The court finds that at the time of the explosion, the battleship Maine was lying in five and one-half to six fathoms of water...

Second—The discipline aboard the ship was excellent; everything—ammunition, guns, stores, etc.—stowed according to orders...

Third—The explosion occurred at 9:40 o'clock on the evening of February 15. There were two explosions, with a very short interval between them...

Fourth—The court can form no definite opinion of the condition of the wreck from the divers' evidence...

Fifth—From the technical details of wreckage, the court deduces that "a mine was exploded under the ship on the port side."

Sixth—The explosion was due to "no fault of those on board."

Seventh—The opinion of the court states that "the explosion of the mine caused the explosion of two magazines."

Eighth—The court declares that it cannot find evidence to fix the responsibility.

The report is unanimous and is signed by all the members of the court. It does not refer to the existence or non-existence of mines in the harbor of Havana...

The normal temperature of the large forward magazines at eight o'clock—only an hour and forty minutes before the explosion—disposes of the question of accidental combustion within these magazines...

This will explain the remarkable destruction wrought, the explosion thus being shown to have contained the force of a mine without and two magazines within. The two explosions which three court finds to have occurred, with a very short interval between them...

The finding that the ship lifted on the first explosion, indicates an external source and one of tremendous power to be able to lift a battleship of thousands of tons...

The feature of the report of deepest interest to the navy is the complete exoneration of Captain Sigsbee and all on board, contained in the second finding, setting forth the perfect order and discipline prevailing on the ship...

The inability of the court to find evidence to fix responsibility, as stated in the eighth part, makes the report so guarded in expression of blame, that neither Spain nor the Spanish are mentioned throughout.

Involuntary Immersion.

The swinging foot bridge that spans the Ararat river at Bonner's ford suddenly gave way Sunday afternoon, during a baptizing conducted by Rev. Dr. Haymer...

It is now said that Gov. Russell will allow John Evans to be hanged.

The Spanish Report.

Washington, March 28.—A full synopsis of the report of the Spanish naval commission which investigated the destruction of the battleship Maine has been given...

The report contains declarations made by several witnesses and experts. From these statements it clearly deduces and proves the absence of all facts which are circumstances which are invariably present on the occasion of the explosion of a torpedo.

The evidence of witnesses comparatively close to the Maine at the moment is to the effect that only one explosion occurred: that a column of water was thrown in to the air that no shock to the side of the nearest vessel was felt, nor on land was any vibration noticed...

The evidence of the senior pilot of the harbor states that there is abundance of fish in the harbor and this is corroborated by other witnesses...

The divers were unable to examine the bottom of the Maine, which was buried in the mud, but a careful examination of the sides of the vessel the rents and breaks, in which all point outward, shows without a doubt, that the explosion was from the inside.

Animate examination of the bottom of the harbor around the vessel shows absolutely no sign of the action of a torpedo and the fixed judge advocate of the commission finds no precedent for the explosion of a vessel by a torpedo.

The report makes clear that owing to the special nature of the proceedings followed, and the absolute respect shown for the territoriality of the Maine, the commission has been prevented from making such an examination of the inside of the vessel as would determine even the hypothesis of the internal origin of the incident.

The report finishes by stating that an examination of the inside and outside of the Maine, as soon as an examination may be possible, as also of the bottom where the vessel rests, will prove that, supposing the remains of the vessel not to be totally or partially altered in the process of extraction, the explosion was undoubtedly due to some interior cause.

How Convicts are Treated.

At the penitentiary one day each month is known as "drawing day." Your correspondent went with the "drawing" in the dining hall...

The nearest convict is a negro named William Davis, from Madison county. He is serving a twenty-five year term for wife murder. It is said he can do more work in a day than any other prisoner...

The United States government inspector suggested that a light be placed in front of the cell door of each Federal prisoner, so each can read an hour at night. These lights are arranged. They are a candle, with a reflector, suspended in a wooden frame.

After an early supper the convicts are marched into their cells. They are counted as they are locked in. The overseers take the lists to the office. If they are correct the day guard is marched off.

Weakness manifests itself in the loss of ambition and ailing bones. The blood is watery; the tissues are wasting—the floor is being opened for disease. A bottle of Brown's Iron Bitters taken in time will restore your strength, soothe your nerves, make you blood rich and red.

Washington Letter.

Washington, March 25, 1898.

Mr. McKinley now has the official report of the Navy Court of Inquiry on the Maine disaster...

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Senator Mason has declined the offer of Dr. George Powell, of La Crosse, Wis., to take his place and accept the chair in anatomy...

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Forty Years in China.

Probably the best known white person in the Chinese Empire is Dr. Young J. Allen, who reached San Francisco recently...

The mission with which he is identified was established fifty years ago, and he is now on his way to attend the semi-centennial of that event, which is to be held at Peking during the month of May.

The patriarch of the Methodist church in the Chinese Empire, and all of his literary efforts are in the Chinese tongue. During all his years of work among Chinese he has written something over 150 volumes, most of which have found their way to every corner of the earth where Chinese are now living.

A Disruptive Flood. Cleveland, Ohio, March 24.—The damage done to Ohio by the flood will amount to several millions of dollars, besides the loss of a score or more of lives.

Thousands of families are rendered homeless. The floods are receding tonight, and it is believed the worst is over.

Attempt to Blow Open a Safe. Oxford, March 25.—An attempt was made last night to enter the iron safe at the Southern Railway depot by boring a hole over the combination and planting dynamite inside. The explosion was sufficient to break the door near the safe.

The attempt to open the safe was unsuccessful, and the dynamite was stolen from the room and there is a net of who attempted the robbery.

Sanford Express. There is a house in Sanford which has four rooms. In one of these rooms lives a family. The other three are occupied by two shoe shops, a bicycle shop, a barber shop, a grocery store. This building is one of the oldest in the town and was used years ago by what was known as the firm of Melvers.

War a Question of Machinery. It is the prevalent opinion nowadays, if it is true, that nothing is to be relied upon in naval war but large battle ships, which take from two to three or four years to build.

But if a great war were forced upon us suddenly, it is altogether probable that American ingenuity would devise something wholly new in the way of a marine engine of war.

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Almanac Gleamer. Mr. and Mrs. Ernest F. Jones, of this place, have three children: Wayland is six years old and weighs 45 pounds...

A wind storm, on last Thursday, blew down the store of A. Lunch & Sons at Star, in this State. It was a large store, 100 feet long and three stories high.

ARE YOU BANKRUPT in health, constitution undermined by extravagance in eating, by disregarding the laws of nature, or physical capital all gone, if so, NEVER DESPAIR. Tutt's Liver Pills will cure you.

CONDENSED SCHEDULE. In effect Jan. 23rd, 1898.

Table with 2 columns: Station, Time. Includes Southern Railway and Norfolk and Western Railway.

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ADMINISTRATOR'S NOTICE. Having received the administration of the late Charles W. Jones...

AND SALE—BY VIRTUE OF. An order of the superior court of Chatham County...

TERMS OF SALE. One-half cash, balance payable in six months with interest from date.

1878. 1898.

EVERY CITIZEN—OF—CHATHAM COUNTY OUGHT TO TAKE THESE CHATHAM RECORD, which for

TWENTY YEARS has been doing its utmost to advance the best interests of the people of this county.

THE RECORD advocates now the very same principles it advocated when first established in 1878, and is not like a weather cock that turns with every change of the wind.

The political campaign of 1898 will be hot and the election most important.

THE RECORD will do its utmost for the redemption of North Carolina from the control of the gang of unscrupulous demagogues, who now disgrace our good old State.

The RECORD is the "Old Reliable," that can always be depended on.

If you wish all the latest news from every-where-in the county, state and nation—subscribe for the RECORD!

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